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Finance Committee Minutes 02-26-2003

ARLINGTON FINANCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING

7:30 PM O'Neill room, community safety building

2/26/03

ATTENDEES:

Janowitz*	Feinleib*	O'Riordan*	O'Neill*	Mahoney
DeCourcey*	Connors	Simmons*	Morrisette*	
Tosti*	Foskett*	Deyst*	Ronan*	
Piandes*	Franclemont*	Jones*	Olsen*	
DuBois*	Howard*	Fanning	Tosi	Kneeland*

* Indicates present

VISITORS: Paul Bayer, Conservation Commission members Nathaniel Stevens (Chair), Tim Sullivan (Treasurer), Cori Beckwith (Administrator); Recycling Committee members Peter Allison (Chair), Chick Abbott.

MINUTES of 2/19/03 accepted. Unanimous

GOVERNOR'S BUDGET: Tosti gave a preliminary report on the proposed budget. He believes the reduction for the FY03 cherry sheet will be 5 percent instead of the expected 20 percent. There is uncertainty because of the savings predicted from the substantial reorganization that was proposed at the same time. The House budget is expected in mid-April with a vote in May. Tosti is reworking the budget spreadsheets.

ARTICLE 56 APPROPRIATION/COMMITTEES & COMMISSIONS: Stevens provided a letter explaining their budget and describing the duties of the Conservation Administrator. There have been fewer projects in FY03 than in previous years and thus less income from fees. No change is expected next year. A 10 percent cut would be OK.

VOTED a 10 percent reduction from FY03, \$14,926. Unanimous.

ARTICLE 57 TRANSFER OF FUNDS/CONSERVATION COMMISSION: Sullivan does not know whether the revolving fund that was supposed to be set up last year is in place. Tosti asked him to discuss this with the comptroller since Town Meeting took no action on the transfer of funds from the Receipt Reserve account.

VOTED no action consistent w/ last year's vote. Unanimous

ARTICLE 59E INDEMNIFICATION OF MEDICAL COSTS

VOTED \$9,813 Unanimous.

ARTICLE 56 APPROPRIATION/COMMITTEES & COMMISSIONS: The remaining committee budgets were also voted with 10 percent reductions:

VOTED for Capital Planning Committee: \$450 Unanimous.

VOTED for Commission on Disability: \$450 Unanimous.

VOTED for Recycling Committee: \$1800 Unanimous.

ARTICLE 60 APPROPRIATION/TOWN CELEBRATIONS: Each of the following items was discussed. Larger reductions were proposed, but the majority felt the Town should support these activities at some level.

VOTED for Seasonal Lighting \$2,000, a 33 percent reduction. 8-7.

VOTED for Veterans Day Parade \$5,667, a 33 percent reduction 14-1.

VOTED for Flags on Graves \$3,000, no reduction, a state requirement 12-2.

VOTED for Flags on Mass Ave \$0. as proposed by the Manager. She will put flags in the 3 business centers only. Unanimous.

ARTICLE 28, 29 TRASH COLLECTION: Using handouts, Alison and Abbott explained that the first bag would be collected at no extra charge. Additional bags would be cost about \$2.10. They predict \$1 million saving as residents shift to recycling which costs the Town less to dispose of. Members asked many questions. The program costs are not included in the Recycling Committee's projections. There is some doubt whether most households could get by with 1 bag. The Chair requested more information about the operation and success of PAYT programs in other communities.

COMMITTEE: No meeting Monday. Next meeting Wed., 3/5/03. Kneeland to arrange presentation on user charges for fields if possible. He is also to arrange for McClennen to discuss Town building reuse at a subsequent date. Pay and Classification Plan copies provided.

RESERVE FUND BALANCE \$300,000

Peter B. Howard, Secretary

Budget & Article Action Summary

Bud #	Date presented	Date of vote	\$	Vote	Art#	Date presented	Date of vote		Vote/ assigned to
1					10	2/19	2/19	bylaw chng	11-2
2					12	2/3	2/3	support	
3					13	2/19		no report	
4					14	2/19		no report	
5					15	2/11	2/11	no report	Unanimous
6					16	2/11	2/11	no report	Unanimous
7					20				Foskett
8					21				
9					22	2/19		no report	
10					25				
11					28	2/26		info request	
12					29	2/26		info request	
13					30	2/19		no report	
14					31	2/3	postponed		
15					32	2/3	postponed		
16					35				
17a					36				
17b					37				
17c					39	2/5	info req'd		
17d					40	2/5	info req'd		
17e					41	2/5	info req'd		
17f					42				
19					43				
20					44				
21a					45				
21b					46				
21c					47				
21d					48				
22					49				
23					50				
24					51				O' Neill
25					52				
26					53				
WS					54				Foskett
Rec					55				DeCoursey
Rnk					56	2/19,26	2/19,26	10 percent reduct	Unanimous
COA					57	2/19	2/19	no action	Unanimous
YS					58A	2/19	2/19	2000	3-7
					58B			5667	14-1
					58D			0	Unanimous
					58E			3000	12-2
					59E	2/27	2/26	9813	Unanimous
					60				
					61				
					62	2/5,2/11	2/11	no action	Unanimous
					63				

					64	2/11	2/11	no action	Unanimous
					65	2/19	2/19	no action or \$35k w/ OR	12-2
					66				
75					67				
74					69		withdrwn?		Fanning
73				Foskett	70				
71				Howard etal	72				Olsen